

Message Text

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ACTION FBOE-00

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 ISO-00 OC-05 CCO-00 /016 W

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P 021507Z APR 76

FM AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 7082

AMCONSUL KARACHI PRIORITY

UNCLAS DAMASCUS 2009

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ABLD, ACOM, SY

SUBJECT: TELEPHONES, OB, PROPERTY 01476

REF: (A) STATE 72563, (B) DAMASCUS 1777, (C) DAMASCUS 1534,
(D) DAMASCUS 1396, (E) DAMASCUS 5185, (F) BEIRUT OM 11/13/74
RE PARA 1 REFTEL (A)

1. IN LATE 1974 EMBASSY DAMASCUS WAS SURVEYED BY THE RCO OFFICE
SEE REF (F). THE RESULTS WERE THAT ONE 1A2KEY SYSTEM WAS
REQUISITIONED BY THE RCO FOR EMBASSY DAMASCUS. SINCE THAT
TIME EMBASSY DAMASCUS HAS INCREASED IN SIZE CONSIDERABLY WITH
THREE OF ITS OFFICES (CONS, COML, AND GSO) HAVING TO MOVE TO
ANNEX BUILDINGS. WITH THIS EXPANSION, A SECOND SURVEY OF
TELEPHONE NEEDS WAS PERFORMED BY THE CRO/DAMASCUS AND THE
RESULTS WERE FORWARDED TO RCO OFFICE FOR EVALUATION
AND REQUISITIONING (REFTEL E). SINCE RCO PREPARED DS-1695
DATED FEBRUARY 17, 1976, OF WHICH WE HAVE NOT RECEIVED COPIES
RCO KARACHI IS REQUESTED TO PROVIDE JUSTIFICATION AND

CLARIFICATION OF LISTED ITEMS REQUESTED PARA 1 REFTEL (A).
REQUIREMENTS FOR USAID AND USIS DAMASCUS WERE NOT INCLUDED
IN THE ABOVE MENTIONED SURVEYS BUT
BOTH AGENCIES DESIRE RCO ASSISTANCE IN MEETING THEIR NEEDS AND
WILL BE PREPARED TO PROVIDE FUNDS FOR REQUIRED EQUIPMENT ETC.

2. RE PARA 2 REFTEL (A): EMBASSY DAMASCUS WAS ORIGINALLY UNDER
THE IMPRESSION THAT RCO WAS ORDERING AN INTERCON SYSTEM
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(PRESUMABLY A 551 SYSTEM) FOR THE DAO OFFICE. THIS WAS

BASED ON AN EXCHANGE OF TELEGRAMS (75 DAMASCUS 3868 PARA 3 AND 75 BEIRUT 12747). KARACHI 1113 ADVISED THAT DAO WAS NOT INCLUDED IN THE REQUISITION. DAO DAMASCUS NOW STATES THEY ARE NO LONGER INTERESTED IN OBTAINING AN INTERCOM SYSTEM AT THE COST OF DOLS 400.00.

3. RE PARA 3 REFTEL (A):

A. MATERIAL NOW AT POST INCLUDES THE NEA EPABX SYSTEM ONE 1A2 SYTEM AND MISCELLANIOUS ITEMS SHIPPED WITH THEM. THE ADDITIONAL EQUIPMENT REQUESTED BY KARACHI 0652 WAS A RESULT OF THE RCO'S EVALUATION OF THE DAMASCUS SECOND SURVEY. REQUEST RCO KARACHI PROVIDE JUSTIFICATION AND CLARIFICATIONS REQUESTED PARA 3 REFTEL A.

B. SINCE EPABX MUST SERVICE THREE ANNEX BUILDINGS RCO HAS RECOMMENDED THAT WEATHER CABLING BE USED TO CONNECT THEM TO THE EPABX SYSTEM. CABLE IS AVAILABLE LOCALLY BUT POST WILL REQUIRE FUNDS FOR ITS PURCHASE. ONCE THE CEO/T DETERMINES OUR TOTAL WEATHER CABLE NEEDS FUNDS WILL HAVE TO BE FURNISHED BY DEPT OR RCO TO PAY FOR IT.

C. RCO KARACHI REQUESTED THAT THREE LOCAL LABORERS BE PROVIDED TO PERFORM CABLE INSTALLATION. FUNDS TO PAY FOR THESE LABORERS WILL ALSO BE NEEDED.

4. THE CRO

ATTEMPTED TO SUMMARIZE THE DAMASCUS TELEPHONE SITUATION IN DAMASCUS 1396 FROM CORRESPONDENCE AVAILABLE IN EMBASSY FILES. MURPHY

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